

Welcome

to



GraceUnion
CHURCH

Encountering Grace through Jesus, right where we are.
Being moved by Grace toward all God has for us.

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Don't Drink The Poison, Part 4: Unoffendable

Anger and Resentment are a poison we drink hoping to hurt someone else. They are spawned by offense.

We will discuss what is possible when you are UNOFFENDABLE.

John 4: Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman

Jesus starts a conversation with an offensive Samaritan woman. Jesus gives her a glimpse into his power and lets her know that he knows her exact situation. Even after that, she still tries to start another fight. Jesus was offering his mercy and revelation. He was offering this woman a FREE PASS into the presence of God. Even though she was offensive, Jesus was not offended.

Proverbs 19:11 "Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense." (ESV)

♦ **Wisdom is displayed in us when we are unoffendable.**

These are 4 understandings that will make you unoffendable:

#1: Being unoffendable is a lifestyle of forgiveness. *Ignoring* offense is different than *forgiving* offense. You can ignore it, but it's still there in front of you. To forgive it is to completely release that person from the guilt of their offense. Unoffendability depends on premeditated forgiveness. Decide ahead of time what our response to offense will be. Waiting until offense comes to decide makes forgiveness monumentally more difficult.

#2: Hurting people hurts people. Those who need your love and mercy the most are probably the least equipped to know what do with it. The people who are the hardest to love are often the ones who need that love the most.

#3: Being unoffendable requires us to leave room for what we don't know. We cannot possibly know all the factors impacting the circumstances around us that annoy us. Freedom comes with the ability to say and believe. There are probably factors involved that you know nothing about.

#4: Being unoffendable requires knowing our role in relationships. The truth is we get offended because someone impedes our intentions. When you run into situations that have a tendency to frustrate, stop and remember that all of us have different roles we are trying to fill. Sometimes the roles we fill impede each other's intentions. Don't take things so personally. Recognize that "this person is filling their role and I am filling mine".

♦ **Unoffendability sets you free to dispense the glory of God.**

God's glory through you will change people's lives and eternal destiny. This requires us holding firmly to a life free from the poison of offense.

Galatians 5:13 "For you were called to freedom, brothers."

We have to hold onto that freedom and not let go! Satan will do everything he can to get you to forfeit that freedom. You were built to be a conduit of God's glory. Only unoffendable people (free people) can pour out God's glory!



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